

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:
  - 2 a first processor having a first processor element and at least one
  - 3 input/output (I/O) port within a first port ring; and
  - 4 a second processor having a second processor element and at least one I/O
  - 5 port within a second port ring, wherein the second processor is coupled to the first
  - 6 processor through at least one I/O port of a third port ring of a third processor.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one I/O port of the first
- 2 processor is not directly connected to the at least one I/O port of the second
- 3 processor.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first processor, the second processor
- 2 and the third processor are part of a number of processors in a point-to-point
- 3 configuration.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first processor is configured to
- 2 transmit output from an image process operation to the second processor through the
- 3 at least one I/O port of the port ring of the third processor based on a logical
- 4 connection.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the at least one I/O port within the port
- 2 ring of the first processor, the at least one I/O port within the port ring of the second
- 3 processor and the at least one I/O port within the port ring of the third processor
- 4 comprise a First-In-First-Out memory.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the at least one port of the first processor,
- 2 the at least one port of the second processor and the at least one port of the third
- 3 processor comprise a receiver port and a transmitter port, wherein the first processor

4     is configured to transmit the output based on a handshake protocol among the  
5     receiver ports and the transmitter ports of the first processor, the second processor  
6     and the third processor.

1     7.     An apparatus comprising:  
2                 a number of image signal processors coupled together in a point-to-point  
3     configuration, wherein one image signal processor of the number of image signal  
4     processors includes at least one processor element and a port ring, wherein the port  
5     ring includes a number of ports, a port of the number of ports coupled to the other  
6     ports of the port ring and to a port of a port ring of a different image signal  
7     processor.

1     8.     The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least one processor element in a  
2     first of the number of image signal processors is configured to perform one of a  
3     number of image process-based operations.

1     9.     The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the number of ports within the port rings  
2     of the number of image signal processors are configured to establish logical  
3     connections between the number of image signal processors.

1     10.    The apparatus of claim 9, the at least one processor element is configured to  
2     output a result of the one of the number of image process-based operations to a  
3     different processor element in a different image signal processor through one of the  
4     logical connections.

1     11.    The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the logical connections are to originate at  
2     a source image signal processor of the number of image signal processors and to  
3     traverse a number of intermediate image signal processors of the number of image  
4     signal processors and to complete at a destination image signal processor of the  
5     number of image signal processors, wherein the source image signal processor is to

6 transmit an initialize signal, prior to transmission of data along the logical  
7 connection, through the number of intermediate image signal processors to the  
8 destination image signal processor in the order that data is transmitted in the logical  
9 connection.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the number of ports include a storage  
2 memory for storage of data between communicated among the number of image  
3 processors through the configured logical connections.

1 13. A system comprising:  
2       a Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) sensor to capture  
3 image data;  
4       an image processor comprising a number of expansion interfaces and a  
5 number of image signal processors, wherein at least one expansion interface of the  
6 number of expansion interfaces is configured to receive the image data to be  
7 captured by the CMOS sensor, wherein at least one image signal processor of the  
8 number of image signal processors comprises a processor element and a port ring  
9 having a number of input/output ports to couple the at least one image signal  
10 processor to other image signal processors in the image processor in a point-to-point  
11 configuration; and  
12       a host processor to configure a number of logical connections among the  
13 number of image signal processors.

1 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the at least one image signal processor  
2 comprises a hardware accelerator to execute image process operations.

1 15. The system of claim 13, wherein the image processor comprises a global bus  
2 coupled to the number of expansion interfaces and the number of image signal  
3 processors, independent of the point-to-point configuration among the number of  
4 image signal processors.

1    16.    The system of claim 13, wherein at least one logical connection is to  
2    originate at a source image signal processor of the number of image signal  
3    processors and to finish at a destination image signal processor of the number of  
4    image signal processors, wherein the at least one logical connection includes  
5    traversal through a number of ports of the port rings of at least one intermediate  
6    image signal processor of the number of image signal processors between the  
7    source image signal processor and the destination image signal processor.

1    17.    The system of claim 13, wherein traversal through the number of ports of the  
2    port rings of the at least one intermediate image signal processor is independent of  
3    image process operations by processor elements within the at least one intermediate  
4    image signal processor.

1    18.    A method comprising:  
2                executing an image process operation; and  
3                forwarding an output of the image process operation through a logical  
4    connection that includes a data path through a number of ports of port rings of a  
5    number of image signal processors, independent of image process operations in the  
6    number of image signal processors.

1    19.    The method of claim 18, wherein forwarding the output of the image process  
2    operation through the logical connection from one of the number of image signal  
3    processors to a different one of the number of image signal processors comprises,  
4                transmitting a request signal from a transmitter port of the one of the number  
5    of image signal processors to a receiver port of the different one of the number of  
6    image signal processors; and  
7                receiving, in response to the request signal, a grant signal from the receiver  
8    port to the transmitter port.

1    20.    The method of claim 18 further comprising registering the logical  
2    connection with the number of ports in the logical connection based on transmission  
3    of an initialization signal through the logical connection prior to the execution  
4    operation and the forwarding operation.

1    21.    The method of claim 18, wherein forwarding the output of the image process  
2    operation through the logical connection that includes the data path through the  
3    number of ports of the port rings of the number of image signal processors  
4    comprises forwarding the output of the image process operation through the logical  
5    connection that includes the data path through the number of ports of the port rings  
6    of the number of image signal processors, wherein the number of image signal  
7    processors are connected together through the number of ports in a point-to-point  
8    configuration.

1    22.    A method comprising:  
2                receiving configuration data for a logical connection established for  
3                transmission of image data from a source image signal processor to a destination  
4                image signal processor through a number of intermediate image signal processors;  
5                registering the logical connection with ports of the source image signal  
6                processor, the destination image signal processor and the number of intermediate  
7                image signal processors; and  
8                routing the image data through the ports of the logical connection,  
9                subsequent to registering the logical connection and independent of image process  
10          operations by processing elements within the number of intermediate image signal  
11          processors.

1    23.    The method of claim 22, wherein registering the logical connection with the  
2    ports of the source image signal processor, the destination image signal processor  
3    and the number of intermediate image signal processors comprises transmitting an

4 initialize signal that is transmitted along a path of the logical connection that the  
5 image data is routed.

1 24. The method of claim 22, wherein registering the logical connection with the  
2 ports of the source image signal processor, the destination image signal processor  
3 and the number of intermediate image signal processors comprises registering point-  
4 to-point connections between the ports of the logical connection.

1 25. A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when  
2 executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations comprising:  
3 executing an image process operation; and  
4 forwarding an output of the image process operation through a logical  
5 connection that includes a data path through a number of ports of port rings of a  
6 number of image signal processors, independent of image process operations in the  
7 number of image signal processors.

1 26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25 further comprising registering  
2 the logical connection with the number of ports in the logical connection based on  
3 transmission of an initialization signal through the logical connection prior to the  
4 execution operation and the forwarding operation.

1 27. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein forwarding the output  
2 of the image process operation through the logical connection that includes the data  
3 path through the number of ports of the port rings of the number of image signal  
4 processors comprises forwarding the output of the image process operation through  
5 the logical connection that includes the data path through the number of ports of the  
6 port rings of the number of image signal processors, wherein the number of image  
7 signal processors are connected together through the number of ports in a point-to-  
8 point configuration.

1       28.    A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when  
2   executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations comprising:  
3            receiving configuration data for a logical connection established for  
4   transmission of image data from a source image signal processor to a destination  
5   image signal processor through a number of intermediate image signal processors;  
6            registering the logical connection with ports of the source image signal  
7   processor, the destination image signal processor and the number of intermediate  
8   image signal processors; and  
9            routing the image data through the ports of the logical connection,  
10   subsequent to registering the logical connection and independent of image process  
11   operations by processing elements within the number of intermediate image signal  
12   processors.

1       29.    The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein registering the logical  
2   connection with the ports of the source image signal processor, the destination  
3   image signal processor and the number of intermediate image signal processors  
4   comprises transmitting an initialize signal that is transmitted along a path of the  
5   logical connection that the image data is routed.

1       30.    The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein registering the logical  
2   connection with the ports of the source image signal processor, the destination  
3   image signal processor and the number of intermediate image signal processors  
4   comprises registering point-to-point connections between the ports of the logical  
5   connection.